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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 09MANAGUA1049, ORTEGA'S JUDICIAL COUP - FSLN LIKE THEIR EGGS, BEATEN

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09MANAGUA1049**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09MANAGUA1049	2009-10-26 16:49	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Managua

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758456.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758467.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758468.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758464.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4103/la-embusa-y-el-gabinete-de-ortega>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4104/d-rsquo-escoto-en-onu-ldquo-un-desafio-de-ortega-a-ee-uu-rdquo>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4102/estrada-y-la-ldquo-doble-cara-rdquo-ante-ee-uu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3966/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-ee-uu-en-el-2006>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2758764.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2758753.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4041/millones-de-dolares-sin-control-y-a-discrecion>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4040/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-venezuela-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4047/rodrigo-barreto-enviado-de-ldquo-vacaciones-rdquo>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2757239.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2746658.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2757244.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2746673.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3991/dra-yadira-centeno-desmiente-cable-diplomatico-eeuu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3968/pellas-pronostico-a-eeuu-victoria-de-ortega-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3967/barreto-era-ldquo-fuente-confiable-rdquo-para-eeuu>

VZCZCXYZ0000
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DE RUEHMU #1049/01 2991649
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 261649Z OCT 09
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0019
INFO WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 001049

SIPDIS
DEPT PASS WHA/CEN KRAAIMOORE
DEPT PASS DRL MAGGIO
DEPT PASS INL/IAA ARCHULETA
PASS TO MILLENIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2019/10/26
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [NU](#)
SUBJECT: ORTEGA'S JUDICIAL COUP - FSLN LIKE THEIR EGGS, BEATEN

REF: MANAGUA 1041; MANAGUA 794

CLASSIFIED BY: Robert J. Callahan, Ambassador; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

AUTHOR OF ORTEGA'S JUDICIAL COUP GETS EGGED

11. (SBU) In the early morning of October 22, Supreme Court Justice (CSJ) Magistrate Francisco Rosales was pelted with several dozen eggs by a number of unidentified youth as he was exiting his vehicle and entering the building of 100% Noticias, a Managua television station for an interview. It is widely believed that Rosales was attacked because of his role as President of the Constitutional Chamber of the CSJ that issued a decision on Monday evening, October 19, permitting Daniel Ortega's re-election (see ref A). A very flustered and visibly incensed Rosales claimed that the egg-throwers were the children of leftist politicians. On the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) radio station YA, Rosales subsequently blamed the United States Embassy for the attack. Rosales stated on October 23, that "the anti-social (perpetrators) involved in the attack were paid directly by the Embassy of the United States to do these acts of violence."

RETALIATION?

12. (SBU) On October 22, a group of Daniel Ortega supporters assaulted Leonor Martinez, an activist in the Civil Coordinator (CC), a left-of-center NGO. Martinez was walking in the street after a CC press conference, when a black van with the FSLN flag flying on it pulled up to her. Of the four men in the van, three came out and put a gun to her head and a dagger to her side. Then, the three men twisted her arm behind her back-breaking it-and threw her to the ground. They proceeded to threaten her and her family while insinuating that she should stop her work with the CC, presumably because of its anti-Ortega stance.

CONNECTION TO EARLIER CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESSION

13. (SBU) The fourth man, who stayed in the van, identified himself as Armando Arroliga (better known as "El Gato"). Arroliga works in the Managua Mayor's Office and was a prominent leader of the FSLN-led assault against a peaceful protest that took place at the Managua Cathedral on August 8 (see ref B). Martinez, supported by human rights defender Vilma Nunez, described her attack to the press outside the hospital where she later received emergency surgery to set the bone in her broken arm. Nunez claimed that Rosales stated he "would send the Sandinista Youth" out to avenge his egging.

COMMENT

14. (C) This most recent example of FSLN-sympathizers seeking to silence and intimidate members of civil society is representative of a larger trend toward the suppression of the public airing of opposition viewpoints. Given that the recent Nicaraguan Supreme Court (CSJ) ruling has further polarized and aggravated the already-tense political climate (see reftel B), attacks against opposition voices will very likely increase in number and severity. While there is no evidence that the violent attack against Leonor Martinez is tied directly to the egging of Rosales, it has become clear that the FSLN officials and their minions are reacting very aggressively to all forms of criticism of their party decisions.

CALLAHAN